

SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT




ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR

1948

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Medical Officer of Health

G.V.R.Lee, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
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SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year
1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the Seisdon Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the Year 1948. Included in it are the usual tables of vital statistics and infectious diseases.

The health of the district has remained satisfactory.

The notable event of the year was the coming into force on July 5th., of the National Health Service Act 1946. By this Act the Council has been relieved from some obligations, the chief of these are :-

- (a) Provision of hospital accomodation for cases of infectious disease.
- (b) Provision of an ambulance service.
- (c) Provision of immunisation against diphtheria for children of school age and over.

- (a) is now the responsibility of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.
- (b) and (c) that of the Staffordshire County Council.

During the year there was an increase in the population of the District of 1,020. Excess of births over deaths was 162, so 858 people settled here from elsewhere. The number working in the District on the land, in shops and other distributive trades, and in the few factories has probably not increased much, the majority of the 858 work outside the District and use it as a dormitory; this naturally worsens the housing situation, but the same degree of obligation to provide houses for them can hardly be felt as for those who work in the District and especially for those who work on the land in this essentially rural area.

I would like to thank the Council for the consideration given to my recommendations about the re-housing of tuberculosis people, the great majority are now satisfactorily housed, the benefit to their health has been noticeable and the danger of infecting others consequently lessened.

In the sanitary condition of the District a distinct improvement

this year has been effected by the regular fortnightly collection of refuse and weekly emptying of sewage pails.

Sewage Disposal. Improvements in sewage disposal by converting pail closets into water closets have been few. There are still approximately 770 pail closets in use. A survey being done at Pattingham during the coming year will show whether a proper drainage scheme is possible there, if it is feasible it will materially reduce the number of pail closets, consequently reducing the nuisance from this source.

Water Supply The tables in the report show that on the whole the water supply is satisfactory. For isolated cottages, pumps are still a necessity. It is part of the Government's policy that all farms should be supplied with piped water. I would like to ask the Council to consider the drawing up of a scheme for those farms in the District which are without it. They number about 10, mostly in Enville. An ample supply of clean water is an absolute necessity for farms, particularly where there is a dairy herd: the labour of pumping involves an uneconomical expenditure of energy.

GENERAL STATISTICS

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| Population ... | ... | ... | 21,800 |
| Area (Acres)... | ... | ... | 41,996 |
| Rateable value | ... | ... | £108,798 |
| Sum produced by penny rate. | | | £416 |
| Total number of houses | ... | | 6,194 |
| Number of Council houses... | | | 397 |

Section A.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Births

| | M. | F. | Total |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Live Births (legitimate) | 184 | 158 | 342 |
| Live Births (illegitimate) | 5 | 11 | 16 |
| | 189 | 169 | 358 |

Birth Rate per 1,000 population

| | |
|------|------|
| 1948 | 16.4 |
| 1947 | 19.2 |
| 1946 | 18.2 |
| 1945 | 16.6 |
| 1944 | 22.1 |

England and Wales

| | |
|------|------|
| 1948 | 17.9 |
| 1947 | 20.5 |
| 1946 | 19.1 |
| 1945 | 16.1 |
| 1944 | 17.6 |

Total stillbirths 5.

Deaths

| | | |
|-----|----|-------|
| M. | F. | Total |
| 106 | 90 | 196 |

Death Rate.

| | |
|------|------|
| 1948 | 9.0 |
| 1947 | 10.2 |
| 1946 | 10.2 |
| 1945 | 10.5 |
| 1944 | 10.7 |

England and Wales

| | |
|------|------|
| 1948 | 10.8 |
| 1947 | 12.0 |
| 1946 | 11.5 |
| 1945 | 11.4 |
| 1944 | 11.6 |

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :

| | | |
|----------------------|-----|---|
| 1. From Sepsis | ... | 0 |
| 2. From other causes | | 0 |

Death of Infants under 1 year of age :

| | | | |
|--------------|----|----|-------|
| | M. | F. | Total |
| Legitimate | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| Illegitimate | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | |
|---|---|----|
| 4 | 7 | 11 |
|---|---|----|

| | | | |
|------|----|----|----|
| 1947 | 8 | 1 | 9 |
| 1946 | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| 1945 | 9 | 11 | 20 |
| 1944 | 10 | 7 | 17 |

Infant mortality rate per thousand live births :

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Legitimate | 32.5 |
| Illegitimate | 0 |

| | | |
|-------|------|------|
| Total | 1948 | 32.5 |
| | 1947 | 22.5 |
| | 1946 | 30.0 |
| | 1945 | 61.3 |
| | 1944 | 40.7 |

England and Wales.

| | |
|------|----|
| 1948 | 34 |
| 1947 | 41 |
| 1946 | 43 |
| 1945 | 46 |
| 1944 | 46 |

Deaths from Tuberculosis :

| | Male | | Female | | Total |
|------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------|
| | Pulmonary | Nonpulmonary | Pulmonary | Nonpulmonary | |
| 1948 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 10 |
| 1947 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| 1946 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| 1945 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 8 |
| 1944 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 7 |

Cancer Deaths.

| | Male | Female | Total |
|------|------|--------|-------|
| 1948 | 10 | 14 | 24 |
| 1947 | 20 | 21 | 41 |
| 1946 | 10 | 20 | 30 |
| 1945 | 16 | 10 | 26 |
| 1944 | 22 | 17 | 39 |

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS.

Births. In common with most parts of the country there has been a decrease in births, 358 against 400 in 1947 and the birth rate which has fallen from 17.2 to 16.4 per 1,000 population is below that for England and Wales.

Deaths. The Total was 196, in 1947 it was 213. The death rate is below that for the country as a whole. Chief causes of death were Heart Diseases (61) and Cancer (24). The ages at which death occurred were :-

| | M | F | Total |
|--------------|-----|----|-------|
| Under 1 year | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| 1-10 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| 10-20 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20-30 | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| 30-40 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 40-50 | 11 | 5 | 16 |
| 50-60 | 7 | 8 | 15 |
| 60-70 | 24 | 13 | 37 |
| 70-80 | 27 | 29 | 56 |
| 80-90 | 22 | 24 | 46 |
| 90-100 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| | 106 | 90 | 196 |

Infantile Mortality.

11 Deaths occurred under 1 year of age. The death rate is only 32.5 for every 1,000 live births. This compares with the rate of 34 for England and Wales.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

| <u>Disease.</u> | Total Cases notified | | | | | Total Deaths. | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|------|------|------|------|---------------|------|------|------|------|
| | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 |
| Enteric or Typhoid Fever | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 41 | 21 | 30 | 20 | 34 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Whooping Cough | 128 | 23 | 58 | 52 | 76 | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 1 | 4 | 1 | 12 | 7 | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Smallpox | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Measles | 93 | 198 | 46 | 227 | 38 | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| Pneumonia | 15 | 2 | 11 | 10 | 15 | 5 | 13 | 5 | 13 | 6 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | - | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Erysipelas | 1 | 2 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fv | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Dysentery | - | - | 2 | 8 | 5 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 1 | 1 | 4 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ac. Poliomyelitis | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Tuberculosis.

Cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year (for the first time)

| Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Total |
|-----------|--------|---------------|--------|-------|
| Male | Female | Male | Female | |
| 13 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 22 |

Total cases remaining on the Register on December 31st:

| | | | | | |
|------|----|----|---|----|----|
| 1948 | 36 | 23 | 9 | 16 | 84 |
| 1947 | 30 | 20 | 6 | 19 | 75 |
| 1946 | 33 | 23 | 5 | 21 | 82 |
| 1945 | 26 | 21 | 3 | 19 | 69 |
| 1944 | 22 | 21 | 6 | 20 | 69 |

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SECTION B

Water Supply

The water supply of the District is mainly furnished by four water undertakings.

1. Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking supplies the Parishes of Codsall, Wrottesley Detached, Pattingham and Lower Penn. 111 bacteriological analyses were made of water before treatment and 415 analyses of treated water going into supply. Of these 415, 372 contained no B.Coli, the other 43 contained a few Coliform bacilli but none of the Faecal Coli Type 1.

47 Chemical analyses were made.

2. Bilston Corporation Water Undertaking, supplies Wombourne, Trysull, Seisdon, Himley and Swindon. 3 samples were taken and found to be satisfactory. The water is obtained from deep wells and chlorination is applied continuously. The water is satisfactory though the iron content is high.

3. South Staffordshire Waterworks Company supplies Kinver, Enville and Bobbington. 54 samples were taken and all found to be free of coliform bacilli.

4. City of Birmingham Water Dept. supplies the Iverley portion of Kinver. Bacteriological examinations were made fortnightly. 13 samples were free from coliform bacilli, 8 contained from 2-15 B.Coli Type 1 per 100c.c. 3 contained coliform bacilli of other types.

PIPED WATER SUPPLIES

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

| | Wolverhampton Corp. Water Undertakings | (parts per 100,000) Bilston Corporation Water Supply | South Staffs Waterworks Co. | City of Birmingham Water Dept |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Free and saline ammonia | 0 | .0094 | Trace | 0 |
| Albuminoid " | 0 | .0056 | Trace | .003 |
| Chlorine in Chlorides | 4.2 | 3.2 | 2.99 | .9 |
| Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites | .12 | .20 | .29 | .04 |
| Oxygen absorbed. 4hrs @ 800 F. 3hrs | .002 | .03 | .012 | .18 |
| Total solids dried @ 212° F | 36.0 | 20.0 | not stated | 4.0 |
| Hardness. Temporary Permanent Total | 12.0 12.8 24.8 | 4.1 4.9 8.9 | 4.1 5.9 10.0 | 2.3 as CaCO ₃ |
| pH Value | 7.5 | 7.3 | 6.6 | 8.8 |
| Iron | 0 | .5 | .005 | not stated |
| Silica | | | | .28 |
| Plumbo Solvency | | | | .12 |

W A T E R S U P P L Y

For the Seisdon R.D.C. covered by the Rural
Housing Survey, December 1948

| | NO. of HOUSES | | | % | % |
|--|---------------|------|------|-------|------|
| Houses having individual piped public supply | 5442 | | | | |
| " " " " Private " (Patshull Estates) | 32 | | | | |
| Total having individual piped supply | | 5474 | | 93.02 | |
| Total having piped supply 1:2 (i.e. 1 pipe to 2 houses | 88 | | | | |
| Total having piped supply 1:3 | 60 | | | | |
| " " " " 1:4 | 40 | | | | |
| " " " " 1:5 | 15 | | | | |
| " " " " 1:6 | 6 | | | | |
| " " " " 1:7 | 7 | | | | |
| Total having piped supply other than individual | | 216 | | 3.65 | |
| Total having piped supply | | | 5690 | | 96.7 |
| Houses having individual well and pump | 75 | | | | |
| " " well and pump 1:2 | 32 | | | | |
| " " " " 1:3 | 15 | | | | |
| " " " " 1:4 | 8 | | | | |
| " " " " 1:5 | 15 | | | | |
| " " " " 1:6 | 12 | | | | |
| Total having wells with pumps | | 157 | | 2.58 | |
| Houses having individual wells without pumps | 11 | | | | |
| Houses having wells without pumps 1:2 | 8 | | | | |
| " " " " 1:5 | 5 | | | | |
| Total using wells without pumps | | 24 | | .45 | |
| Total using wells | | | 184 | | 3.0 |
| Houses having spring supply 1:3 | 3 | | | .05 | |
| Total using spring supply | | 3 | 3 | | .05 |
| Houses without water supply (obtained on sufferance from neighbouring houses etc.) | 11 | 11 | 11 | .25 | .25 |
| Total Houses inspected | 5885 | 5885 | 5885 | 100. | 100. |

WATER SUPPLIES IN THE SEPARATE PARISHES

| PARISH | Total no. of houses | M A I N S S U P P L Y | | | P U M P | | S P R I N G | W E L L S W I T H O U T P U M P S | | N O N E |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------|---------|------|-------------|---|------|---------|
| | | INDIVIDUAL INSIDE | OUTSIDE (STANDPIPE) | SHARED | IND. | SH'D | | IND | SH'D | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| BOBBINGTON | 107 | 70 | 14 | 13 | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | 5 |
| CODSALL | 843 | 776 | 24 | 9 | 10 | 20 | - | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| EEVILLE | 177 | 105 | 20 | - | 18 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 16 | - |
| HIMLEY | 89 | 77 | - | 8 | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | - |
| KINVER | 1254 | 1073 | 125 | 46 | 5 | - | - | 5 | - | - |
| LOWER PENN | 392 | 375 | 6 | 11 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| PATSHULL | 48 | 32 | - | - | 11 | 4 | - | - | - | 1 |
| PATTINGHAM | 254 | 181 | 42 | - | 17 | 13 | - | - | - | 1 |
| SEISDON & TRYSULL | 196 | 140 | 29 | 20 | 4 | 2 | - | - | - | 1 |
| SWINDON | 140 | 104 | - | 35 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| WOMBOURN | 1011 | 883 | 40 | 71 | 7 | 8 | - | - | - | 2 |
| WROTTESLEY | 1374 | 1325 | 33 | 3 | - | 13 | - | - | - | - |
| | 5885 | 5141 | 333 | 216 | 75 | 71 | 3 | 11 | 24 | 11 |

SECTION C

General Provisions of Health Services.

Infectious Diseases. On July 5th., 1948 the hospitals of the West Midland Joint Hospital Board passed under the control of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The arrangements for admission of cases continue as before; a general practitioner, who considers that his patient should be sent to hospital, notifies me and I arrange it with Moxley Hospital.

Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination. From Jan 1st to July 5th 1948 65 infants were immunised against Diphtheria at the Infant Welfare Centres : at the schools 26 children who had not been injected in infancy were immunised and 113 children received a "boosting dose".

On July 5th. the County Council assumed the responsibility for immunisation and vaccination: the immunisation record cards were handed over to the Area Medical Officer.

Ambulance Facilities. With the coming into force of the N.H.S. Act on July 5th. the County Council assumed the responsibility for the conveyance of ambulance cases other than those with infectious diseases. The arrangements made are for the ambulances to be stationed at Tettenhall and at Brierly Hill. During the day-time the Tettenhall ambulance serves the Northern and the Brierly Hill ambulance the Southern part of the District. After 8 p.m. the Brierly Hill ambulances serve the whole District.

Infant Welfare Facilities. The County Council maintains three Infant Welfare Centres in the District :-

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Men's Institute, Wombourn | ... | Monday afternoon |
| Constitutional Club, Kinver | ... | Friday afternoon |
| Free Church School room Codsall | | Tuesday afternoon |

There is a specially chartered bus to bring mothers and infants from Bobbington, Trysull and Lower Penn to the Wombourn Welfare Centre. There is provision at Pattingham of facilities for the weighing of babies

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant

A.P.Fry.

Medical Officer of Health.

SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Year 1948

To the Chairman and Members, Seisdon Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my eighth Annual Report, that for the year 1948, upon the work performed by my department.

I should like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and consideration in the carrying out of my duties; to the Medical Officer of Health and other Officials of your Council for their help, and to Mr. Robinson and Miss Rolinson for their unfailing and willing assistance at all times.

1.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Total inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7013 |
| Number of Complaints received | ... | ... | ... | ... | 141 |
| Preliminary Notices Served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 138 |
| Statutory Notices Served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 48 |
| Preliminary Notices Complied | ... | ... | ... | ... | 149 |
| Statutory Notices Complied | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67 |

2.

ROUTINE INSPECTIONS MADE.

HOUSING

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Houses inspected - Primary | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54 |
| - Re-inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | 469 |
| Overcrowding | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Survey | ... | ... | ... | ... | 500 |

FACTORIES

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Factories Mechanical Power | ... | ... | ... | ... | 48 |
| Factories NO Mechanical Power | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26 |
| Bakehouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Meat and Food Inspections - Day | ... | ... | ... | 135 |
| - Evening and Week-ends | ... | ... | ... | 91 |
| | | | | <u>226</u> |
| Shops - Meat | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| - Fish | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| - General | ... | ... | ... | 160 |
| Food Premises | ... | ... | ... | 212 |
| Dairies | ... | ... | ... | 25 |
| Cowsheds | ... | ... | ... | 87 |
| Sampling - Water | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| - Milk | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| - Ice Cream | ... | ... | ... | 10 |

OTHER ROUTINE VISITS OF INSPECTION

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Accumulations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Camping Grounds | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |
| Cleansing | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 451 |
| Drainage | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 702 |
| Infectious Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 77 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 75 |
| Petroleum | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 27 |
| Piggeries | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Rats and Mice (destruction) Act | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 241 |
| Refuse Receptacles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 95 |
| Sampling | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36 |
| Slaughterhouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Smoke | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Tents, Vans, Sheds | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1731 |
| Water Supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 249 |
| Water Survey | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1365 |
| Verminous Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Farms | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |

3

COMPLAINTS

One hundred and forty-nine complaints were received during the year under review. They concerned the following defects :-

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|----|-------------------------|-----|----|
| Housing defects | ... | ... | 18 | Refuse Receptacles | ... | 5 |
| Accumulations | ... | ... | 8 | Referred to other depts | ... | 16 |
| Water Supply | ... | ... | 2 | Rats | ... | 15 |
| Overflowing cesspools | ... | ... | 24 | Overcrowding | ... | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | 15 | Drainage defects | ... | 45 |

These complaints were distributed amongst the parishes as follows :-

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bobbington - 12 | Patshull - 1 | Pattingham - 7 |
| Kinver - 18 | Codsall - 12 | Wombourn - 42 |
| Seisdon - 8 | Lower Penn - 9 | Himley - 2 |
| Wrottesley - 37 | Swindon - 1 | |

4.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Routine disinfection of rooms, etc., occupied by cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria, was carried out; disinfection after cases of tuberculosis, cancer, etc., was undertaken at the request of relatives. The method of disinfection is that of formaldehyde, either by stoving or in spray form.

Rooms disinfected 31

5.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are eight private slaughterhouses in your Area: these have not been in use since the operation of the Government Meat and Livestock Scheme, January 1940.

6.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

A total of 226 visits were made in connection with the inspection of meat and other foods; 135 were made during the daytime and 91 were made in the evening or at the week-end.

I have again to thank the Food Executive Officer, Mr.A.M. Baker, for his co-operation in the matter of inspection of home-killed pigs. Mr.Baker supplied each applicant for a licence, with a form, to be returned to me, showing time, place and date of proposed slaughter.

As a result of this procedure 190 pigs were examined; the following diseased conditions were found.

Tuberculosis

4 sets Lungs
3 sets Livers
1 set Mesentery

Approximate weight 35 lbs.

The following items were also inspected :-

Found to be unsound, unwholesome, or unfit for human consumption:

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 8 tins Pork | 10 tins Beef | 6 tins Milk |
| 2 tins Peaches | 2 tins Pears | 1 tin Grapefruit Juice. |

Approximate weight 49 lbs.

7

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES, ETC.,

87 visits were made to cowsheds and 25 to dairies.

Milk sampling is undertaken by the County Public Health staff and I am informed that the results of samples taken by them indicate a very satisfactory state of affairs. Notification is sent to me of all unsatisfactory samples. These during 1948 number five.

8.

WATER SAMPLING

During the year five samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and four for chemical.

Three bacteriological and two chemical samples were satisfactory; the unsatisfactory samples were obtained in Burnhill Hill Green Council Houses. Recent samples have proved satisfactory though a Chlorination plant has been installed as a safeguard.

9.

HOUSING

186 notices were served during the year. These were sited as follows :-

| | | | | | |
|------------|----|-------------|----|------------|----|
| Enville .. | 7 | Patshull .. | 9 | Himley .. | 10 |
| Bobbington | 7 | Pattingham | 23 | Wombourn | 38 |
| Seisdon .. | 5 | Swindon .. | 6 | Lower Penn | 6 |
| Codsall .. | 22 | Kinver .. | 35 | Wrottesloy | 18 |

179 of the notices referred to the Housing defects onumerated on pages 17, 18 and 19

The remaining seven were concerned with the following nuisance

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Accumulations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Moveable Dwellings, Statutory | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Animals kept | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |

VERMINOUS PREMISES AND PERSONS.

Only one visit was made during the year to premises stated to be verminous. The following disinfection took place :-

Rooms infested with fleas - 4

Spraying with an insecticide incorporating D.D.T. was the means of treatment adopted, the operation being successful

REPAIRS - INTERNAL.

| | | As a result of an Informal Notice | As a result of a Statutory Notice |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---|---|
| Walls | | | |
| Plaster repaired | ... .. | 18 | 1 |
| Internal walls repointed | ... .. | 15 | 1 |
| Cleansed and redecorated | ... .. | 1 | - |
| Ceilings | | | |
| Plaster repaired | ... .. | 11 | 6 |
| Cleansed and redecorated | | 7 | 6 |
| Windows | | | |
| Frames, sashes repaired | ... .. | 13 | - |
| Sashcords provided | ... .. | 8 | 8 |
| Glazing | ... .. | 10 | - |
| Window area increased | ... .. | 5 | - |
| Window made to open | ... .. | 2 | - |
| Doors | | | |
| Woodwork repaired | ... .. | 6 | - |
| Door sills provided | ... .. | 11 | - |
| Floors | | | |
| Wood floors repaired | ... .. | 15 | 5 |
| Quarry floors repaired | ... .. | 2 | - |
| Fireplaces | | | |
| Firegrates repaired | ... .. | 18 | 4 |
| Hearths, Mantels, pointing repaired | | 7 | - |
| Hot water system | ... .. | 3 | - |
| Cooking facilities provided | | 1 | - |
| Water Supply | | | |
| Provided | ... .. | 3 | - |
| Waste of water remedied | ... .. | 1 | - |
| Sinks | | | |
| Provided | ... .. | 2 | - |
| Waste pipes provided or repaired | | 4 | 8 |
| Gulley surround repaired | ... .. | 4 | - |

| | As a result of an Informal Notice | As a result of a Statutory Notice |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Washing Accommodation | | |
| Washcoppers repaired ... | 3 | - |
| Fireboxes, flues repaired ... | 2 | - |
| Pans, brickwork rendering repaired | 1 | - |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Stairs | | |
| Treads and risers repaired ... | 4 | - |
| Handrails provided ... | 2 | - |

REPAIRS - EXTERNAL

| | As a result of an Informal Notice | As a result of a Statutory Notice. |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
|--|--------------------------------------|--|

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|---|
| Roofs | | |
| Timbers and coverings repaired | 16 | - |
| Slates and tiles repaired or provided | 27 | 8 |
| Flashings and fillets repaired | 27 | 8 |
| Ridge tiles repaired | 23 | - |
| Verges repaired ... | 23 | - |

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Chimney Stacks | | |
| Repaired ... | 5 | - |
| Brickwork repointed ... | 4 | - |
| Chimney pots provided ... | 1 | - |

| | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| Gutters | | |
| Provided ... | 2 | - |
| Repaired ... | 1 | - |

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| Rain Water Pipes | | |
| Repaired ... | 5 | 2 |
| Provided ... | 3 | - |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----|---|
| Walls | | |
| Bulging and dangerous repaired | 6 | - |
| Brickwork ... | 9 | 1 |
| Pointing ... | 12 | 2 |
| Rendering ... | 9 | 6 |
| Pointing round doors and windows | 10 | - |

| | | |
|-------------------------|----|---|
| Water Closets | | |
| Provided ... | - | 2 |
| Pans Repaired ... | 12 | 1 |
| Woodwork repaired ... | 1 | - |
| Cisterns etc., repaired | 6 | 4 |

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Pail Closets | | |
| Closet compartments provided | 6 | - |
| Compartments repaired ... | 2 | - |
| Pails provided ... | 9 | 1 |

| | | | | As a result of an Informal Notice | As a result of a Statutory Notice. |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|--|
| Drainage | | | | | |
| Provided or repaired | ... | ... | ... | 9 | 10 |
| Vent. provided or repaired | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 9 |
| Access provided or repaired | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 9 |
| Cleansed | ... | ... | ... | 6 | - |
| Gullies provided | ... | ... | ... | - | 1 |
| Soil/vent pipes repaired | ... | ... | ... | - | 7 |
| Connections to sewer | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 8 |
| Cesspools | | | | | |
| Emptied | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 5 |
| New covers provided | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Dustbins | | | | | |
| Provided | ... | ... | ... | 66 | 35 |
| Water Supply | | | | | |
| Provided | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| Yard Paving | | | | | |
| Repaired | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 |

DEFECTS - INTERNAL

| | | | | Action required by a Notice Informal | Statutory |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---|-----------|
| Walls | | | | | |
| Damp, defective, perished plaster | | | | 7 | 2 |
| Defective internal pointing | ... | ... | ... | 7 | 2 |
| Dirty walls | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| Ceilings | | | | | |
| Damp, defective, perished plaster | | | | 5 | 1 |
| Defective bulging plaster | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 2 |
| Dirty Ceilings | ... | ... | ... | 4 | - |
| Windows | | | | | |
| Defective frames, sashes, casements | | | | 5 | - |
| Other defects, sash-cords | ... | ... | ... | 6 | - |
| Broken glass | ... | ... | ... | 4 | - |
| Fixed sashes and casements | ... | ... | ... | 6 | - |
| Doors | | | | | |
| Defective woodwork, frames etc., | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Defective door sills etc., | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 |
| Floors | | | | | |
| Defective, dilapidated etc. wood floors | | | | 4 | - |
| Defective floor boards | ... | ... | ... | - | 1 |
| Defective solid floors | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |

DEFECTS - INTERNAL

Action required by a Notice
Informal Statutory

Stairs

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|
| Defective | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | 1 |
| Defective treads or risers | | | | ... | - | 1 |

Fireplaces

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|--|--|---|---|
| Defective and dilapidated ranges | | | | 2 | - |
| Dilapidated and defective firegrates | | | | 7 | - |
| Defective ironwork of ranges and grates | | | | 7 | - |
| Defective ovens, firebars etc., | | | | 2 | - |
| Defective firebacks, flues etc., | | | | 4 | - |
| Defective hearths, mantels, pointing etc., | | | | 3 | - |
| Defective cooking facilities | ... | | | 1 | - |

Water Supply

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|---|
| Burst pipes | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| Insufficient or unsuitable | | | ... | 9 | 5 |

Sinks

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|--|---|---|
| Defective wastepipes | ... | ... | | 2 | - |
|----------------------|-----|-----|--|---|---|

Washing Accommodation

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|--|--|---|---|
| Dilapidated/defective washhouses | | | | 2 | - |
| Defective fire-boxes, flues | ... | | | 2 | - |

DEFECTS - EXTERNAL

Roofs

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|--|----|---|
| Dilapidated timbers and coverings | | | | 17 | 2 |
| Defective and missing tiles/slates | | | | 13 | 2 |
| Defective fillets and flashings | | | | 13 | 1 |
| Defective ridge tiles | ... | ... | | 12 | 1 |
| Defective verges | ... | ... | | 13 | 2 |

Chimney Stacks

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|--|--|---|---|
| Dangerous and dilapidated | ... | | | 1 | - |
|---------------------------|-----|--|--|---|---|

Gutters

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|
| Defective | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 |
| Choked | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 |

Rain Water Pipes

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|
| Absence of | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | - |
| Lengths missing | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | - |
| Defective | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 2 |

Walls

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|--|---|---|
| Defective or perished pointing | | | | 4 | 1 |
| Defective or perished brickwork | | | | 6 | - |
| Defective rendering | ... | ... | | 1 | - |
| Defective or worn window sills | | | | 1 | - |
| Defective pointing around windows | | | | 1 | - |

DEFECTS - MATERIAL

Action required by
an Informal Notice

Action required
by a Statutory
Notice

Water Closets

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Absence of | - | 2 |
| Defective pans or basins | 4 | 2 |
| Defective woodwork, seats etc., .. | - | 1 |
| Defective cisterns, fittings, etc., | - | 1 |

Pail Closets

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Absence of | 5 | - |
| Defective/dilapidated | 1 | 1 |
| Defective pails | 9 | 1 |

Drainage

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---|----|
| Defective or insufficient | 5 | 13 |
| Lack of, or defective, access ... | 5 | 9 |
| Lack of, or defective, ventilation | 4 | 9 |
| Obstructed | 2 | - |
| Defective gullies | - | 1 |
| Defective vent, or soil pipes ... | - | 8 |
| Connections to sewer | - | 8 |

Cesspools

| | | |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Overflowing | 6 | 4 |
|--------------------|---|---|

Dustbins

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----|---|
| Dilapidated or required | 66 | 3 |
|--------------------------------|----|---|

As noted in Part One of my report, 216 notices were complied with during the year. 202 of these concerned the housing repairs noted on page 15.

The premises concerned were sited as follows :-

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----|------------------|----|
| Bobbington | 1 | Codsall | 19 |
| Lower Penn | 3 | Kinver | 34 |
| Seisdon and Trysull | 6 | Pattingham | 19 |
| Wombourn | 29 | Swindon | 5 |
| Patshull | 6 | Wrottesley | 71 |
| Himley | 7 | Envillo | 2 |

Inspections under the Rural Housing Survey were continued during the year - 500 houses being inspected in detail. The position, as at 31st December 1948 was as follows :-

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Total inspected to date | 2837 |
| Category One | 1606 |
| Category Two | 375 |
| Category Three | 532 |
| Category Four (Re-conditioning) | 16 |
| Category Five | 274 |

No. of cases of overcrowding discovered .. 4

As will be noted only 500 houses were inspected in connection with the Housing Survey. This was due to the fact that the Department took over the Cleansing Service in March 1948, and no additional assistance was provided until March 1949.

Council Houses.

Inspections carried out from time to time, for various purposes e.g. overcrowding, suitability as tenants, etc., reveals the fact that much might be gained by regular periodic visits to all Council Houses.

11.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Work under this heading has continued throughout the year. As will be noted on page 12. of this report 1731 visits were made to individual moveable dwellings, and 38 to Camping Grounds. The standard of the majority of these sites has very greatly improved during the past two or three years. Active co-operation is maintained with the Planning Officers with fruitful results. It is difficult to give an accurate figure of the number of individual moveable dwellings in the District but it is believed to be in the neighbourhood of 285.

Consequent upon routine daily visits by you inspectors over a period of four months we were able to take legal proceedings in connection with a former Camping Ground at Kinver, early in 1949. The case was heard before the Brierley Hill Magistrates on Monday 31st January 1949. Eleven individual owners of caravans etc., were summoned together with an individual summons against the owner of the ground, and eleven further summonses against the site owner for aiding and abetting. Two of the individual summonses were withdrawn in Court. The Magistrates decision was as follows :

9 Individual Owners

2 dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act.
6 fined 5/-
1 fined 10/-

10 Summonses against Site Owner.

£5 (maximum penalty) on each charge.
75 guineas special costs, a total of £128. 15. 0.

The site was cleared of moveable dwellings forthwith.

CLEANSING.

The Public Cleansing Service was added to the duties of the Department in March 1949.

A detailed report of proposals was prepared with the guidance of the then Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Mr. W. Blakemore, and submitted to the Council. Most of the suggestions were approved and have resulted in a marked improvement in the Service.

There still remain points which require attention at an early date; of these probably the most important is the adoption of controlled tipping as a means of disposal of the refuse. At present the tipping is practically crude, but the matter has been held up largely through the scarcity of the semi-skilled labour required to ensure that the method is properly carried out.

I think the Council will find that ample use can be made of any land reclaimed in this way; we have a number of sites in the district which, lying waste at the moment, could be very easily made available for playing fields, recreation grounds, allotments, etc., as a result of controlled tipping. I feel that some comprehensive scheme on these lines, and for such a purpose, would be of advantage to the District as a whole, and more efficient administration than filling in the odd piece of waste land, or small sandpit here and there.

At the time the Service was taken over the number of bins being emptied per week was averaging around 1800; by the end of the year the average per week was 3350. This represents an increase in the frequency of collection from between three and four weeks to a fortnightly. The emptying of pails was maintained at a weekly frequency and the service made more efficient and sanitary by the purchase of a special tanker to undertake the work.

The emptying of cesspools created a very big problem and the means at the disposal of the Department were very inadequate. The Council decided to undertake free emptying of cesspools at intervals of three months, and also ordered a new Karrier Cesspool Emptyer which was delivered in the Spring of 1949.

During the year salvage collection was increased by some 200%.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948

This table is enclosed by request of the Ministry of Labour and National Service to indicate to Medical Officers of Health the prescribed particulars which are required by section 128 (3) to be furnished in their annual reports with respect to matters under Part I and Part VIII of the Act which are administered by the District Council. It is not intended to supercede the fuller statement which is desirable in the text of the report.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1948 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF SEISDON IN THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

| Premises (1) | M/c line No. (2) | Number on Register (3) | Number of | | | M/c line No (7) |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | Inspe- ctions (4) | Written notices (5) | occupiers prosecuted (6) | |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 1 | 8 | 48 | - | - | 1 |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies (a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of enforcement) Order, 1938 | 2 | 15 | 34 | | | 2 |
| (b) Others | 3 | | | | | 3 |
| (iii) Other premises under the Act (excluding outworkers' premises) | 4 | - | - | | | 4 |
| TOTAL | | 23 | 82 | - | - | |

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

| Particulars (1) | M/c line No. (2) | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted (7) | M/c line No (8) |
|--|---------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| | | Found (3) | Remedied (4) | To H.M. Inspector (5) | Referred By H.M. Inspector (6) | | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | 5 | 3 | 3 | | | | 5 |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | 6 | | | | | | 6 |
| Unreasonable temp- erature (S.3) | 7 | | | | | | 7 |
| Inadequate vent- ilation (S.4) | 8 | | | | | | 8 |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | 9 | | | | | | 9 |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | | | |
| (a) insufficient | 10 | | | | | | 10 |
| (b) unsuitable or defective | 11 | 3 | 3 | | 2 | | 11 |
| (c) not separate for sexes | 12 | | | | | | 12 |
| Other offences (not including offences relating to Home work) | 13 | | | | | | 13 |
| TOTAL | 60 | 6 | 6 | | 2 | | 60 |

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentleman,

Public Health Dept.,
Council Offices,
Wombourn

Your obedient servant,

G.V.R.Lee,

September 1949

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

